

Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims reflects all claim amendments and replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. Material to be inserted is in **bold and underline**, and material to be deleted is in ~~strikeout~~ or (if the deletion is of five or fewer consecutive characters or would be difficult to see) in double brackets [[]].

1-14. (Cancelled)

15. (Previously presented) A rack for carrying a boat comprising:

a pair of tower bodies, each body having a mechanism for attaching the body to the top of an automobile,

a crossbar connected to the tower bodies, and

a pair of support members connected to the crossbar, each support member having a base, a back wall, and a slope expanse forming a wedge shape and creating an internal space, the expanse having an upper portion and a lower portion for contacting a boat hull, and a curved load rib, extending through the internal space and connecting the expanse to the base, the load rib providing support to the lower portion of the expanse so that the upper portion of the expanse is substantially more flexible than the lower portion to accommodate different hull shapes.

16. (Previously presented) The rack of claim 15, further including a spring rib extending through the internal space and connecting the expanse to the back wall supporting the upper portion of the expanse.

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Previously presented) The rack of claim 15, wherein the base for each support member is substantially parallel to the crossbar.

19. (Previously presented) The rack of claim 15, wherein the expanse, base, back wall, and rib are all formed of a single piece of material.

20-30. (Cancelled)